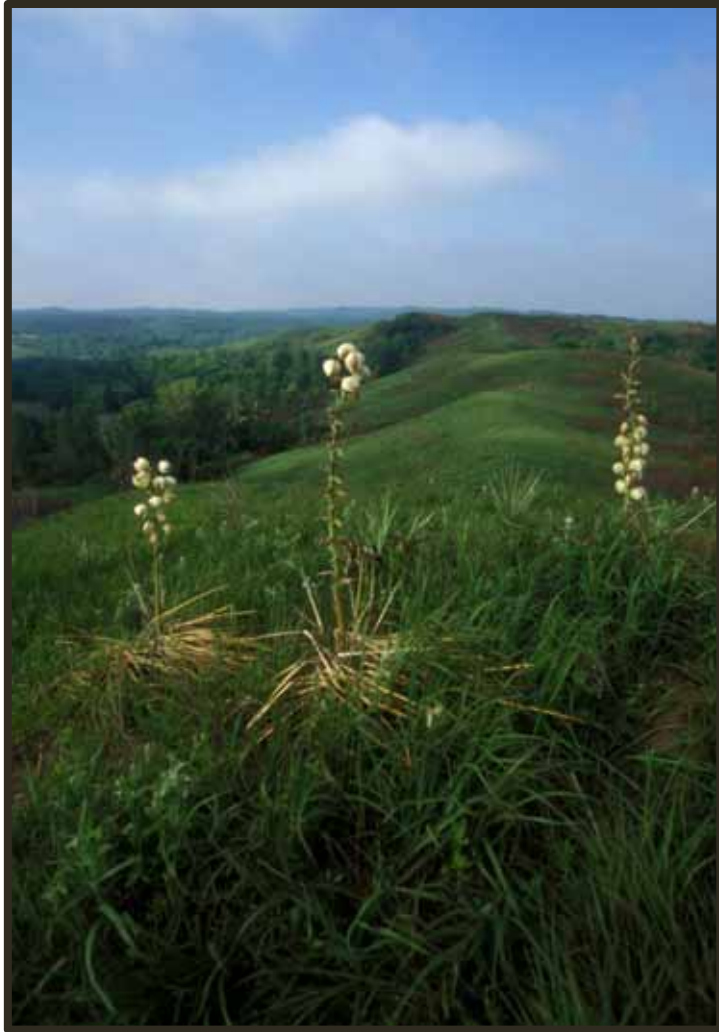


Loess Hills Alliance

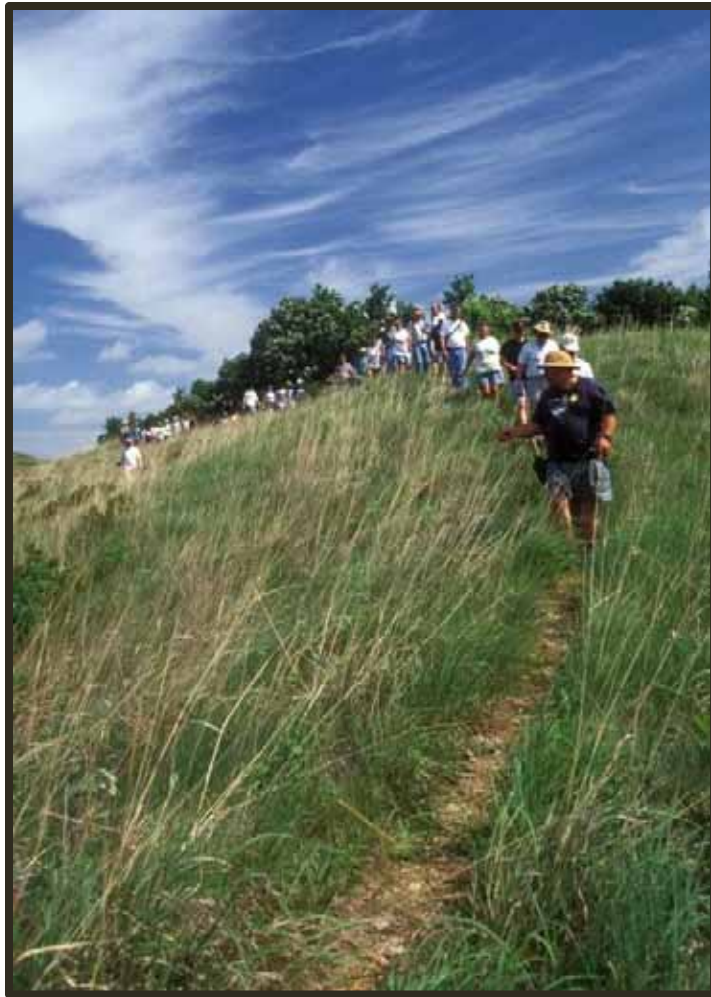


Loess Hills Alliance involves 7 Counties:



Plymouth
Woodbury
Monona
Harrison
Pottawattamie
Mills
Fremont

Mission Statement



Loess Hills Alliance
Mission is to
protect special,
natural and cultural
resources of Iowa's
Loess Hills while
ensuring economic
viability and
promoting
awareness.

Goals of the Loess Hills Alliance:



- 1) Promote a collaborative working relationship among the various organizations, municipalities, counties and agencies working in the region.
- 2) Work to permanently protect significant areas, including the viewshed of the scenic byway and the 12 Special Landscape Areas within the Loess Hills landform.

Goals of the Loess Hills Alliance (cont.):



- 3) Ensure technical resources and assistance is available to landowners interested in protecting and restoring the ecological condition of their property.
- 4) Increase public awareness of the Loess Hills region and resources.

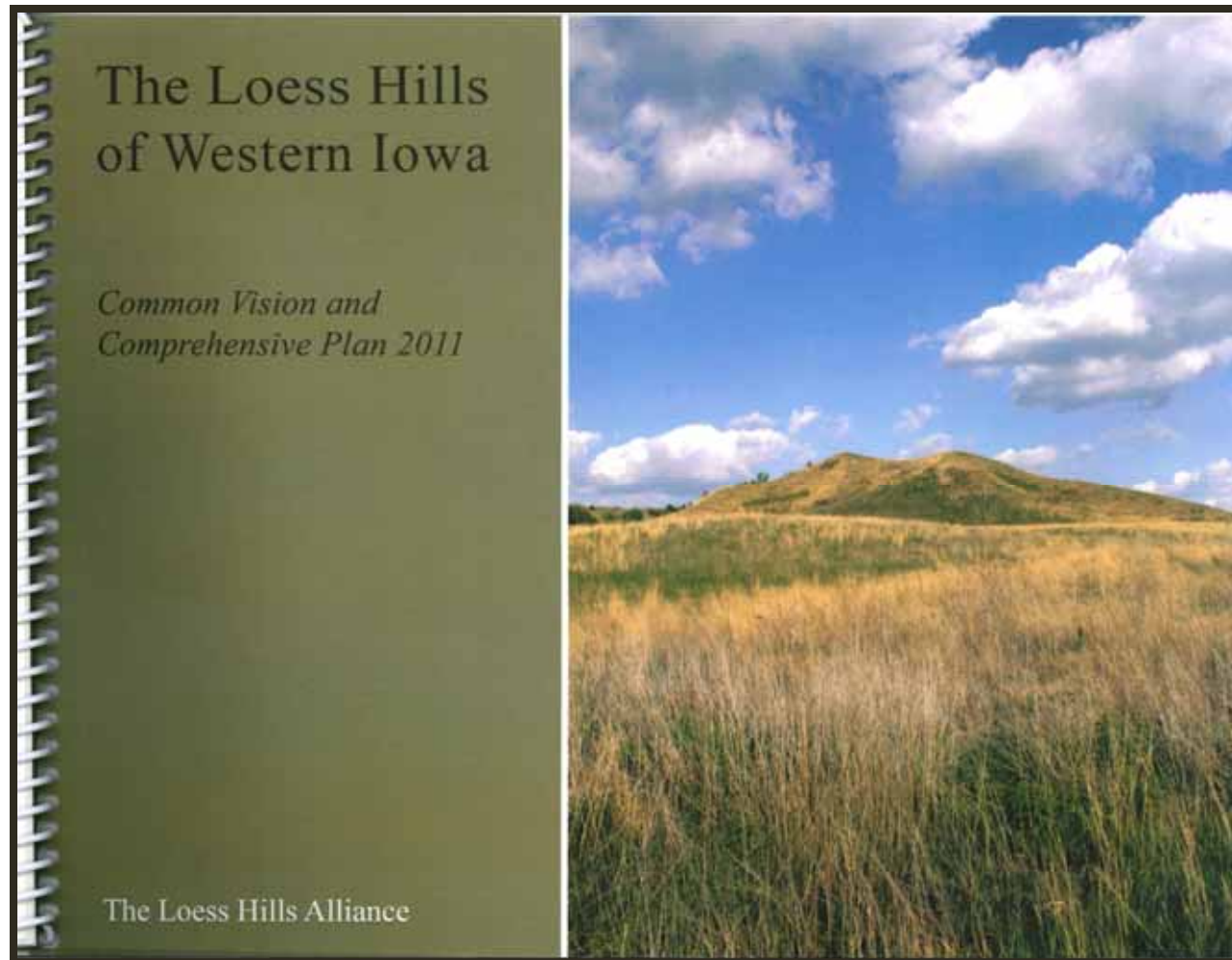
Board of Directors

Membership of the Board is comprised of individuals living and working in the Loess Hills region. The 28 member Board of Directors is comprised of 21 members appointed by the County Board of Supervisors (3 representatives from each county in the Loess Hills region one of which must be a county supervisor). The Loess Hills Development & Conservation Authority appoints the remaining 7 seats on the Board.

The Board of Directors are assigned to manage the LHA business and affairs.



In 2011, the Loess Hills Alliance updated our comprehensive plan.



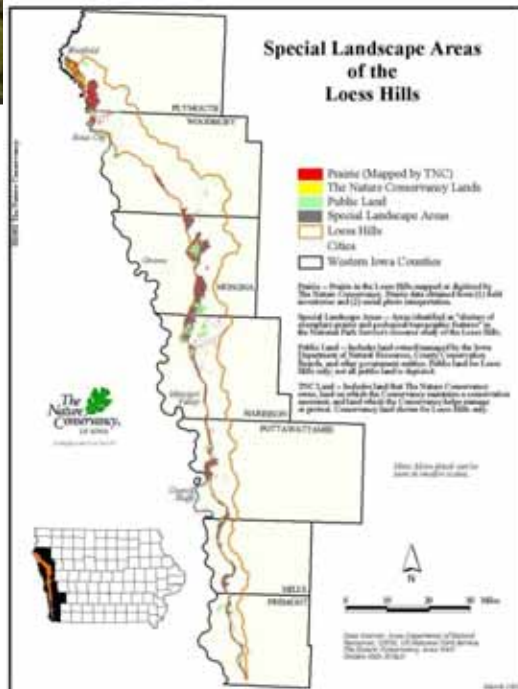
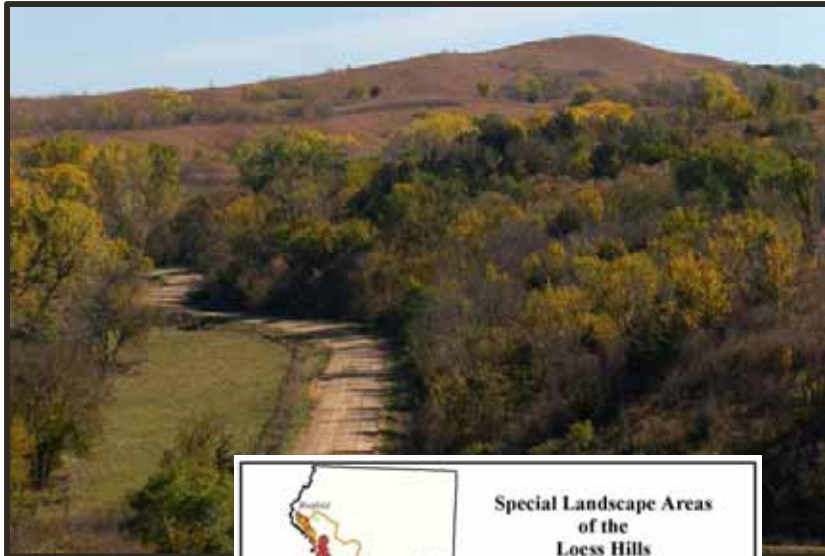
Promoting Collaborations



- Quarterly meetings
- Working committees:
**Protection, Stewardship,
Economic Development &
Executive Committee**
- Over 25 partners are represented: federal state, county and NGO's
- Newly updated website promotes Loess Hills efforts
- www.loesshillsalliance.org



Protecting Significant Areas



- Since 2009, we have partnered to protect over 2,500 acres
- Raised more than \$3.3 million in grant money & directed \$201,000 in appropriated state funds

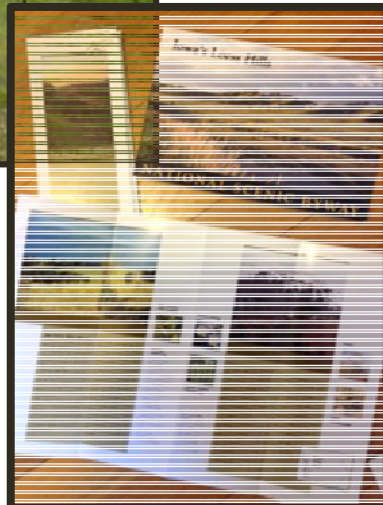
To date, over 31% of the 12 Special Landscape Areas are protected, including the 11,500 ac Loess Hills State Forest & 7000 ac of private easement land

Technical resources & assistance to private landowners



- Support 3 private lands conservationists located in SWCD offices
- Support Fire Coordinator located at Hitchcock Nature Center
- Established Stewardship Cost-share Initiative. In 2012 ~300 acres prairie/pasture enrolled using \$75,000 USFWS grant
- In 2011, restored 220 acres of oak savanna in Mills & Fremont counties
- Maintain 7 fire equipment caches – 40,000 acres burned since 2000
- Co-sponsored 2012 national fire training – 1,800 acres treated

Increase awareness of the region



- Developed marketing plan for the region with Western IA Tourism (TV, magazine & radio in 6 state area)
- Living Loess Cooperative—9 small businesses & attractions in Harrison & Pottawattamie Counties -awarded \$4,000
- Archeological Survey of the Glenwood Resource Center – awarded \$5,000 to Golden Hills RC&D
- Hitchcock Nature Center marketing the Loess Hills Lodge as a meeting facility – awarded \$1,425

Moving Forward

- 1) America's Great Outdoors Initiative – cost-share support for landowners, increased recognition, support for tourism, recreation and conservation
- 2) Continue to support landowner outreach and technical assistance
- 3) Economic development & supporting tourism including brochure development and TV and magazine ad placement
- 4) Continue to protect land through easements & acquisitions
- 5) Co-sponsoring fire training exchange April 2013
- 6) Education and outreach field days and workshops

